

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cellulose acetate structure, at least a surface region of which comprises a biodegradable cellulose acetate composition comprising a biodegradation promoting agent contained in cellulose acetate and comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of a salt of an oxygen acid of phosphorus, an ester an oxygen acid of phosphorus, or a salt thereof, carbonic acid and a salt thereof.

2. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 1, wherein said cellulose acetate has a DS value falling within a range of between 2.0 and 2.6.

3. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 1, wherein said biodegradation promoting agent has a solubility in water of room temperature of 2g/dm^3 or less.

4. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 3, wherein said biodegradation promoting agent is selected from the group consisting of cellulose phosphate, starch phosphate, calcium secondary phosphate, calcium tertiary phosphate, and calcium phosphate hydroxide.

5. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 1, wherein said biodegradation promoting agent is contained in an amount of 0.01 to 10% by weight based on said cellulose acetate.

6. The cellulose acetate structure according to

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claim 1, wherein said biodegradation promoting agent is in the form of fine particles, and said biodegradable cellulose acetate composition further contains a dispersant for dispersing said fine particles in said composition.

5 ~~36A3~~ 7. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 1, further comprising a photodegradation promoting agent.

10 8. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 7, wherein said photodegradation promoting agent comprises titanium oxide.

9. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 1, wherein said cellulose acetate structure is in the form of fibers.

15 ~~36A4~~ 10. The cellulose acetate structure according to claim 1, wherein said cellulose acetate structure in the form of a unwoven fabric formed of short fibers having a length of 1 to 100 mm.

20 11. A tobacco filter comprising the cellulose acetate structure defined in claim 9.

12. A tobacco filter comprising the cellulose acetate structure defined in claim 10.

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